

A Historical Perspective on Magnetic Disk Storage

The Fermilab Distributed Computing Department originally created this display for the *1996 Super Computing International Conference* for High Performance Computing, Networking, Storage and Analysis, held in Pittsburgh, PA.

Removable Floppy Disk, 8- inch (256 KB), 1976

Removable Floppy Disk, 5.25- inch (1.2 MB), 1984

Removable Floppy Disk, 3.5- inch (1.44 MB), 1989

Removable Zip Disk, 3.5- inch (100 MB), 1995

Removable Secure Digital High Capacity Memory Card (SDHC), 0.79- inch (8 GB), 2011

Note: In 2011, a Secure Digital Extended Capacity (SDXC) memory card (same form factor) could store up to 128 GB.

Removable micro Secure Digital High Capacity memory card (microSDHC), 0.43- inch (32 GB), 2011

Removable USB Flash Drive, 0.2- inch, (8 GB), 2007

Note: In 2011, a USB Flash Drive (same form factor) could store up to 256 GB.

Bryant Fixed Disk (1 of 10 in array), 39- inch diameter (5 MB), 1965

Fixed Disk, 3.5- inch diameter (48 MB), 1986

Note: In 2011, a 3.5- inch Fixed Disk (same form factor) could store 3 TB.

Fixed Disk, 8- inch diameter (850 MB), 1988

Fixed Disk, 5.25- inch (630 MB), 1989

Note: In 1998, a 5.25- inch Fixed Disk made by Seagate (same form factor) could store 47 GB.

Fixed Disk, 2.5- inch (3.2 GB), 1998

Note: In 2011, a 2.5- inch Fixed Disk (same form factor) could store up to 1 TB.

Fixed Disk, 1.8- inch (160 GB), 2007